



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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CHIEF DEPUTY

October 23, 2007

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley
Auditor-Controller

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FOR

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – DELIANN-
LUCILE, INCORPORATED - DELILU ACHIEVEMENT GROUP HOME**

We have completed a review of DeliLu Achievement Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Deliann-Lucile, Incorporated. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

DeliLu Achievement Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for girls ages 12-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, DeliLu Achievement Group Home was providing services for one DCFS child, four Probation Children and one El Centro County child.

DeliLu Achievement Group Home is located in the Second District.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. The Agency needs to address several deficient areas.

The Group Home needs to clean and repair the back yard patio. The linoleum floor in the kitchen and window screens in the common living areas also need repairs.

Additionally, the Group Home needs to include the treatment team and the child in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans and provide children with sufficient recreational activities. The Group Home also needs to obtain current court authorizations for psychotropic medication, maintain accurate medication logs and maintain documentation to confirm that children taking psychotropic medication are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

JTM:MMO:DC:CC

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Chief Deputy Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Mary L. Davis, Executive Director, Deliann-Lucile, Incorporated
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Deliann-Lucile, Incorporated
DeliLu Achievement Group Home
Los Angeles, California 90018
License Number: 198203559
Rate Classification Level: 12**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

DeliLu Achievement Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is adequately maintained. The front yard is clean and adequately landscaped. However, the back yard patio has broken bricks and debris.

Overall, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the linoleum floor in the kitchen and some of the window screens in the common living quarters are damaged.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV, and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

1. Deliann-Lucile Group Home management:

- a. Clean and repair the back yard patio.
- b. Repair the linoleum floor in the kitchen.
- c. Repair the broken window screens in the common living quarters.

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current, comprehensive and include short and long term goals. However, input from all members of the treatment team and the child is not included in the development or implementation of the NSPs.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

Recommendation

- 2. Deliaann-Lucile Group Home management include input from all members of the treatment team and the child in the development and implementation of the NSPs.**

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest. However, the Group Home does not provide children with sufficient recreational activities.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

- 3. Deliaann-Lucile Group Home management provide children with sufficient recreational activities.**

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

Children do not have current court authorizations for psychotropic medication and medication distribution logs are not properly maintained. Additionally, there is not sufficient documentation to confirm that children taking psychotropic medications are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication.

Recommendations

- 4. Deliaann-Lucile Group Home management:**
 - a. Obtain current court authorizations for all psychotropic medication.**
 - b. Maintain clear and accurate medication logs.**
 - c. Maintain documentation to confirm that children taking psychotropic medications are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.**

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment – Interviews with children

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks.

Children receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

VII. Clothing and Allowance**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews**

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

***DeliLu Achievement Home***

Mary L. Davis, Director/Administrator
1564 West 36th Place
Los Angeles, CA 90232-3045
License # 198203559

SEPTEMBER 11, 2007

Ms. Candace Rhue, Group Home Auditor Supervisor
County of Los Angeles, Department of Auditor-Controller
500 West Temple Street, Room 515 -A
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2766

Dear Ms. Rhue:

Re: Corrective Action Plan

Please find our plans to correct the issues noted in your annual visit of July 18, 2007.

Facility and Environment

Patio -As of this date, we have removed the excess bricks/cement from the patio.

Kitchen Floor-We will repair the linoleum on the service porch by October 15, 2007

Window Screens: -The broken window screens were replaced on July 30, 2007.

To ensure that the facility and environment is in good repair, the facility manager will make weekly inspections. The executive director will make sure that all needed repairs are completed.

Programs and Services

Needs and Services Plan -DeliLu Achievement Home will include all members of the treatment team participate in the development of the Needs and Services plan. *The social worker will implement this plan. The executive director will monitor and ensure that the plan it remains active and is working as intended.*

Recreation Activities -DeliLu Achievement Home will provide additional weekend recreational activities and document these activities on a Monthly Calendar. *The PM staff will develop the activity schedule with the clients. The executive director will ensure that this program is maintained.*

Psychotropic Medication

Authorizations - The facility manager will work with our Psychiatrist, Social Worker and Probations Officers to obtain the psychotropic medication authorizations forms.

Documentation of appointments-Our facility manager will ensure that there is documentation of the prescribing psychiatrist appointments.

Medication Logs-Our staff will consistently main a proper medication logs for our clients. *The executive director will ensure this the above records are maintained in the office file.]*

Signed,


Mary L. Davis, Executive Director


Date